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## For Immediate Release

## **Excise Officers Arrest 21 in West Lafayette**

**WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (Oct. 28)** – Indiana State Excise Police officers arrested 21 people while patrolling West Lafayette Friday night.

Excise officers arrested 19 minors for illegal possession or consumption of alcohol on Oct. 26 – most at an underage drinking party at an apartment complex three blocks east of Purdue University's campus.

Fourteen of those arrested for underage drinking were at a party at 20 Littleton Street, where excise officers went to investigate a complaint of underage drinking at a Halloween party. Officers also cited two adults for aiding or inducing a minor to possess alcohol.

Friday night's arrests were part of the agency's Intensified College Enforcement, or ICE, initiative, which aims to reduce underage drinking at the state's colleges and universities. The program began this semester at Purdue University.

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

All criminal and administrative-law defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.